

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An integrated circuit including a capacitor, the integrated circuit comprising:

an insulating layer overlying a substrate;

a semiconductor layer overlying the insulator layer;

a bottom electrode formed in a first portion of the semiconductor layer;

a channel region formed in a second portion of the semiconductor layer, the channel region being disposed between a source region and a drain region;

a capacitor dielectric overlying the bottom electrode, the capacitor dielectric comprising a high permittivity dielectric having a dielectric constant greater than about 5; and

a gate dielectric overlying the channel region;

a top electrode overlying the capacitor dielectric; and

a gate electrode overlying the gate dielectric.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor is a decoupling capacitor.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 2 wherein the top electrode is connected to a power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a ground line.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein the top electrode is connected to a first power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a second power supply line.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the bottom electrode or the top electrode is substantially flat.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the top electrode comprises poly-crystalline silicon.
7. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of molybdenum, tungsten, titanium, tantalum, platinum, and hafnium.
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal nitride selected from the group consisting of molybdenum nitride, tungsten nitride, titanium nitride, tantalum nitride, ~~[[or]]~~ and combinations thereof.
9. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal silicide selected from the group consisting of nickel silicide, cobalt silicide, tungsten silicide, titanium silicide, tantalum silicide, platinum silicide, erbium silicide, ~~[[or]]~~ and combinations thereof.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal oxide selected from the group consisting of ruthenium oxide, indium tin oxide, ~~[[or]]~~ and combinations thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises hafnium oxide.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises a material ~~[[is]]~~ selected from the group consisting of aluminum oxide, hafnium oxynitride, hafnium silicate, zirconium oxide, zirconium oxynitride, zirconium silicate, ~~[[or]]~~ and combinations thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than about 10.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than about 20.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 100 angstroms.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 20 angstroms.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 5 microns.
18. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 10 microns.
19. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 1 micron.
20. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 5 microns.
21. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1, further comprising at least one bottom electrode contact region electrically coupled to the bottom electrode, wherein the bottom electrode contact region is doped to ~~the first~~ a first conductivity type and wherein the bottom electrode is doped to a second conductivity type and wherein coupled to a supply voltage is coupled to the integrated circuit so as to create that creates an inversion region of the first conductivity type in the bottom electrode.
22. (Currently Amended) The ~~capacitor~~ integrated circuit of claim 1, further comprising at least one bottom electrode contact region electrically coupled to the bottom electrode, wherein

the bottom electrode and the bottom electrode contact region are doped to ~~the first~~ a first conductivity type.

23. (Currently Amended) A decoupling capacitor comprising:
- a semiconductor substrate comprising a silicon surface layer;
  - a substantially flat bottom electrode formed in a portion of the ~~semiconductor~~ silicon surface layer, wherein the bottom electrode is doped to a first conductivity type;
    - a doped region formed within the silicon surface layer adjacent to the bottom electrode,
    - the doped region doped to a second conductivity type;
  - a capacitor dielectric overlying the bottom electrode, the capacitor dielectric comprising a high permittivity dielectric with a relative permittivity greater than about 5; and
  - a substantially flat top electrode overlying the capacitor dielectric, dielectric; ~~and~~
  - wherein the top electrode is electrically coupled to a first reference voltage line and the bottom electrode is electrically coupled to a second reference voltage line.
24. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode is connected to a power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a ground line.
25. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode is connected to a first power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a second power supply line.
26. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the semiconductor substrate is a bulk silicon substrate.

27. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the semiconductor substrate is a silicon-on-insulator substrate.

28. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode comprises silicon.

29. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of molybdenum, tungsten, titanium, tantalum, platinum, and hafnium.

30. (Currently Amended) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal nitride selected from the group consisting of molybdenum nitride, tungsten nitride, titanium nitride, tantalum nitride, [[or]] and combinations thereof.

31. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal silicide selected from the group consisting of nickel silicide, cobalt silicide, tungsten silicide, titanium silicide, tantalum silicide, platinum silicide, erbium silicide, or combinations thereof.

32. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises hafnium oxide.

33. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises a material selected from the group consisting of hafnium oxynitride, hafnium silicate, zirconium oxide, zirconium oxynitride, zirconium silicate, and combinations thereof.

34. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than 10.

35. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than 20.

36. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 100 angstroms.

37. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 50 angstroms.

38. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 10 angstroms.

39. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 5 microns.

40. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 10 microns.

41. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 1 micron.

42. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 5 microns.

43. Canceled.

44. (Currently Amended) The capacitor of claim ~~[[43]]~~ 23 wherein the first conductivity type is n-type and the second conductivity type is p-type.

45. (Currently Amended) The capacitor of claim ~~[[43]]~~ 23 wherein the first conductivity type is p-type and the second conductivity type is n-type.

46. Canceled.

47. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 and further comprising spacers formed on sides of the top electrode.

48. (Original) The capacitor of claim 47 and further comprising an etch-stop layer overlying the top electrode and the spacers.

49. (Original) The capacitor of claim 48 wherein the etch-stop layer comprises silicon nitride.

50. (Original) The capacitor of claim 48 and further comprising an inter-layer dielectric overlying the etch-stop layer.

51. (Original) The capacitor of claim 50 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises silicon oxide.

52. (Original) The capacitor of claim 50 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises a dielectric with a relative permittivity less than about 3.5.

53. (Original) The capacitor of claim 50 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises a dielectric with a relative permittivity less than about 3.0.

54. (Original) The capacitor of claim 50 wherein the inter-layer dielectric is selected from the group consisting of benzocyclobutene (BCB), SILK, FLARE, methyl silsesquioxane (MSQ), hydrogen silsesquioxane (HSQ), and SiOF.

55. (Original) The capacitor of claim 50 and further comprising a first contact plug in electrical contact with the bottom electrode and a second contact plug in electrical contact with the top electrode.

56. (Original) The capacitor of claim 23 further comprising a shallow trench isolation region adjacent to the bottom electrode.

57. (Currently Amended) The capacitor of claim 23 wherein semiconductor substrate comprises a ~~semiconductor-on-insulator~~ semiconductor-on-insulator (SOI) substrate and wherein the silicon surface layer includes ~~including~~ a plurality of islands, wherein the islands are isolated from one another by mesa isolation.

58-93. Canceled.

94. (New) The integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the gate dielectric is formed from the same material as the capacitor dielectric.

95. (New) The integrated circuit of claim 94 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises hafnium oxide.

96. (New) The integrated circuit of claim 94 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises a material selected from the group consisting of hafnium oxynitride, hafnium silicate, zirconium oxide, zirconium oxynitride, zirconium silicate, and combinations thereof.

97. (New) The integrated circuit of claim 1 wherein the gate electrode is formed from the same layer as the top electrode.

98. (New) A decoupling capacitor comprising:

a semiconductor substrate comprising a silicon surface layer;

a substantially flat bottom electrode formed in a portion of the semiconductor surface layer, wherein the bottom electrode is doped to a first conductivity type;

doped regions formed in the silicon surface layer, the doped regions doped with the first conductivity type;

a capacitor dielectric overlying the bottom electrode, the capacitor dielectric comprising a high permittivity dielectric with a relative permittivity greater than about 5;

a substantially flat top electrode overlying the capacitor dielectric; and

wherein the top electrode is electrically coupled to a first reference voltage line and the bottom electrode is electrically coupled to a second reference voltage line.

99. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode is connected to a power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a ground line.

100. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode is connected to a first power supply line and the bottom electrode is connected to a second power supply line.

101. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the semiconductor substrate is a bulk silicon substrate.

102. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the semiconductor substrate is a silicon-on-insulator substrate.

103. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode comprises silicon.

104. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of molybdenum, tungsten, titanium, tantalum, platinum, and hafnium.

105. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal nitride selected from the group consisting of molybdenum nitride, tungsten nitride, titanium nitride, tantalum nitride, or combinations thereof.

106. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the top electrode comprises a metal silicide selected from the group consisting of nickel silicide, cobalt silicide, tungsten silicide, titanium silicide, tantalum silicide, platinum silicide, erbium silicide, or combinations thereof.

107. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises hafnium oxide.

108. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the high permittivity dielectric comprises a material selected from the group consisting of hafnium oxynitride, hafnium silicate, zirconium oxide, zirconium oxynitride, zirconium silicate, and combinations thereof.

109. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than 10.

110. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the high permittivity dielectric has a relative permittivity of greater than 20.

111. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 100 angstroms.

112. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 50 angstroms.

113. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor dielectric has a physical thickness of less than about 10 angstroms.

114. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 5 microns.

115. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor has a width of larger than about 10 microns.

116. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 1 micron.

117. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein the capacitor has a length of larger than about 5 microns.

118. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 and further comprising spacers formed on sides of the top electrode.

119. (New) The capacitor of claim 118 and further comprising an etch-stop layer overlying the top electrode and the spacers.

120. (New) The capacitor of claim 119 wherein the etch-stop layer comprises silicon nitride.

121. (New) The capacitor of claim 119 and further comprising an inter-layer dielectric overlying the etch-stop layer.

122. (New) The capacitor of claim 121 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises silicon oxide.

123. (New) The capacitor of claim 121 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises a dielectric with a relative permittivity less than about 3.5.

124. (New) The capacitor of claim 121 wherein the inter-layer dielectric comprises a dielectric with a relative permittivity less than about 3.0.

125. (New) The capacitor of claim 121 wherein the inter-layer dielectric is selected from the group consisting of benzocyclobutene (BCB), SILK, FLARE, methyl silsesquioxane (MSQ), hydrogen silsesquioxane (HSQ), and SiOF.

126. (New) The capacitor of claim 121 and further comprising a first contact plug in electrical contact with the bottom electrode and a second contact plug in electrical contact with the top electrode.

127. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 further comprising a shallow trench isolation region adjacent to the bottom electrode.

128. (New) The capacitor of claim 98 wherein semiconductor substrate comprises a semiconductor-on-insulator (SOI) substrate and wherein the silicon surface layer includes a plurality of islands, wherein the islands are isolated from one another by mesa isolation.